



Department of Energy

Brookhaven Group
P.O. Box 5000
Upton, New York 11973

NOV 3 2000

Mr. Thomas Sheridan
Brookhaven Science Associates, LLC
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Upton, New York 11973

Dear Mr. Sheridan:

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF COMMENCING RHIC ROUTINE OPERATIONS

Reference: Letter from Sheridan to Crescenzo, dated September 26, 2000 (received at BHG October 25, 2000) Subject: Request Approval for Routine Operations at RHIC

The Brookhaven Group Office (BHG) has reviewed your request for commencing Routine Operations at RHIC. Included in your request and in our review is your restriction against operation of the PHENIX RICH detector with ethane. The BHG determined that:

- the RHIC Accelerator Readiness Reviews (ARRs) performed to date are appropriate to commence Routine Operations,
- the RHIC Accelerator Safety Envelope (ASE) dated September 19, 2000 appropriately bounds Routine Operation activities and is therefore approved, and
- the risks analyzed in the RHIC Safety Assessment Document (SAD) are acceptable when Routine Operation activities are conducted within the ASE.

Based on the above, you are approved to commence Routine Operation activities for RHIC Collider and experiments with the exception of the *operation* of the PHENIX RICH detector with ethane. **IMPORTANT:** Please be aware that the use of the term *operation* above concerning ethane also includes other *pre*-operational steps necessary to make the detector operable using ethane. This would include the *introduction* of ethane into the detector and may include other precursory steps involving ethane. This point is raised since the ASEs for PHENIX

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and RICH use the terms *introduction* and *operational*. Though you have elected not to operate the detector with ethane at this time, the ASEs concerning ethane still apply.

If you have any questions, please contact Peter Kelley at extension 5784 or Michael Butler at extension 3430.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Frank Crescenzo', written over a horizontal line.

Frank Crescenzo, Acting
Brookhaven Group Manager

cc: R. Desmarais, BHG
M. Holland, BHG
~~M. Butler, BHG~~
D. Lowenstein BNL
E. Lessard, BNL